

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for selecting rating limits in a program content filtering system, wherein said rating limits define whether programs are to be blocked or are deemed to be acceptable, comprising:

retrieving a stored preset rating example;

reproducing information about a said retrieved rating example;

supplying at least one recommended rating assigned to said rating example;

detecting an user indication about the acceptability of said rating example;

assigning said user indication to said recommended rating; and

deriving a rating limit in response to assigning said user indication to said recommended rating.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the steps of reproducing, supplying, detecting and assigning are repeated for a plurality of rating examples and a respective plurality of recommended ratings to provide a plurality of user indications for said plurality of recommended ratings and a plurality of assignments of said plurality of user indications to respective ones of said plurality of recommended ratings, and wherein the step of deriving a rating limit occurs in response to said plurality of assignments.

3. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

storing said rating limits;

receiving programs comprising multimedia content and assigned recommended ratings;

comparing said stored rating limits with said received assigned recommended ratings; and

denying access to programs exceeding at least one of the rating limits.

4. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said programs are television programs and wherein said program content filtering system is a parental control system.

5. (Currently Amended) The method in accordance with claim 4, wherein said television programs are received as an ~~analogue~~ analog television signal and said assigned recommended ratings are received in the vertical blanking interval of said analogue television signal.

6. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the recommended ratings define the age of the viewer the program is designed for, the degree of a certain program content, or a combination thereof.

7. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein the reproduced information about the rating examples is displayed to the user and comprises one or more of the following:

Title, description, topics, theme, picture, summary, short trailer, recommended rating, explanation of recommended rating.

8. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said user indications comprise various degrees of acceptability.

9. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said information about rating examples and said recommended ratings assigned to said rating examples are received within electronic program guide information.

10. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said information about rating examples and said recommended ratings assigned to said rating examples are stored in a receiver device.

11. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein for a networked device said information about rating examples and said recommended ratings assigned to said rating examples are stored in a remote server.

12. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein said information about rating examples and said recommended ratings assigned to said rating examples are selected by the user from the normal EPG program schedule.

13. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein currently broadcasted programs are used as information about rating examples and wherein recommended ratings broadcast embedded into said currently broadcast programs are used as said recommended ratings assigned to said rating examples.

14. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 1, wherein an overview of derived rating limits is displayed.

15. (Original) The method in accordance with claim 14, wherein the derived rating limits can be manually amended.

16. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising:
means for receiving programming including rating information; and
control means responsive to the rating information and to a rating limit for providing content filtering of the programming; wherein the control means comprises:
means for retrieving a stored preset rating example;
means for providing information about a the retrieved stored preset rating example; and

means for deriving the rating limit in response to an indication from a user about the acceptability of the retrieved stored preset rating example.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claims 16 wherein the information providing means provides information about a plurality of stored preset rating examples and the rating limit deriving means derives the rating limit in response to a plurality of

indications from a user about the acceptability of respective ones of the plurality of stored preset rating examples.

18. (Currently Amended) Television apparatus with a parental control system, comprising:

a processor for executing a rating limits application, wherein said rating limits application retrieves and provides stored preset rating examples and processes user indication about the acceptability of said rating examples in order to derive rating limits from said user indications;

an OSD generator for generating screen displays reproducing information about said retrieved preset rating examples;

a display for displaying said screen displays;

an input interface for detecting user indications about the acceptability of said retrieved preset rating examples; and

a memory for storing said derived rating limits.